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PATENT

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J1036 U.S. PTO  
08/14/01

J1099/929186 U.S. PTO  
08/14/01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: ETTER

Box NEW PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Transmitted herewith for filing pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is the patent application of:

Inventor(s): HEINZ ETTER, JÜRG ATTINGER & WERNER MAAG  
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Applicant claims small entity status pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.27.

Enclosed are:

- Application Data Sheet pursuant to 37 CFR 1.76.
- Specification with 25 pages, 22 claims and 6 sheets of drawing.
- Declaration with  Power of attorney.
- Assignment.
- Cover letter in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §3.31 to accompany the assignment submitted for recording.
- Check in the amount of \$413.00 for covering the filing fee of \$355.00, the fee of \$18.00 for filing two claims in excess of twenty and the official fee of \$40.00 for recording the Assignment.
- Self-addressed postcard.

- Two priority documents.
- Information Disclosure Statement with  PTO-Form 1449 and  copy of reference[s].
  
- The filing fee is calculated as follows:

Basic Fee: \$710.00

Additional Fees:

Total number of claims: 22-20 \$ 36.00

Number of independent claims: 1-3 \$ 00.00

Reduction by 50% for filing by a small entity \$373.00

TOTAL \$373.00

- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 06-0502. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby also authorized to charge any fees which may be required during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 06-0502: any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, and any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, including presentation of extra claims. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.10 and §1.53, applicant respectfully requests that this application be assigned an application number and a filing date of August 14, 2001, the date upon which the application was mailed to the Patent and Trademark Office by Express Mail.

Applicant hereby claims priorities under 35 U.S.C. §119 (a)-(d) on the basis of Swiss Patent Applications No. 2000 2049/00, filed October 19, 2000, and No. 2001 0908/01, filed May 16, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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HMF/UBD:af